

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 203

To reduce acid deposition under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 2003

Mr. SWEENEY (for himself and Mr. McHUGH) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To reduce acid deposition under the Clean Air Act, and  
for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Acid Rain Control  
5       Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. REDUCTION IN TOTAL ANNUAL EMISSIONS OF SUL-**  
7       **FUR DIOXIDE BY UTILITY UNITS.**

8       The second sentence of section 403(a) of the Clean  
9       Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7651b) is amended by striking the pe-  
10      riod at the end and inserting “, and such 8.90 million tons  
11      amount shall be reduced to 4.45 million tons for each of

1 calendar years 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011, and shall be  
2 further reduced to 3 million tons for calendar years there-  
3 after.”.

4 **SEC. 3. REDUCTION IN TOTAL ANNUAL EMISSIONS OF NI-**  
5 **TROGEN OXIDES BY AFFECTED FACILITIES.**

6 (a) TOTAL ANNUAL EMISSIONS.—The Administrator  
7 of the Environmental Protection Agency shall ensure that  
8 total annual emissions of nitrogen oxides by affected facili-  
9 ties in the 50 States and the District of Columbia do not  
10 exceed—

11 (1) 2.10 million tons for each of calendar years  
12 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011; and

13 (2) 1.70 million tons for calendar year 2012  
14 and each calendar year thereafter.

15 (b) PENALTY.—The owner or operator of any af-  
16 fected facility that emits nitrogen oxides for any calendar  
17 year after 2007 in excess of the facility’s emissions limita-  
18 tion requirement, or any allowance the owner or operator  
19 holds for the facility for that calendar year, under regula-  
20 tions promulgated under this Act or title IV of the Clean  
21 Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7651 et seq.)—

22 (1) shall be liable for the payment of an excess  
23 emissions penalty under section 411 of such title (42  
24 U.S.C. 7651j), except that the penalty shall be cal-  
25 culated on the basis of the number of tons emitted

1 in excess of the facility's emissions limitation re-  
2 quirement multiplied by \$6,000; and

3 (2) shall be liable to offset the excess emissions  
4 by an equal tonnage amount in the manner applica-  
5 ble under section 411 of such title (42 U.S.C. 7651j)  
6 to the owner or operator of any affected source that  
7 emits excess sulfur dioxide.

8 (c) AFFECTED FACILITY.—For purposes of this sec-  
9 tion, the term “affected facility” means a facility with 1  
10 or more combustion units that serve at least 1 electricity  
11 generator with a capacity not less than 25 megawatts.

12 **SEC. 4. MERCURY EMISSION CONTROL.**

13 (a) REGULATION.—Not later than December 15,  
14 2004, the Administrator shall promulgate a regulation  
15 controlling electric utility and industrial source emissions  
16 of mercury in the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

17 (b) PROHIBITION ON TRANSFER.—The Adminis-  
18 trator may not allow any electric utility or other industrial  
19 source to transfer any mercury emission allowance.

20 **SEC. 5. REGULATIONS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall promul-  
22 gate regulations to carry out sections 2, 3, and 4 that—

23 (1) may, except in the case of mercury, provide  
24 for market-oriented mechanisms, such as emissions  
25 trading, auctions, or other allocation methods;

1           (2) shall prevent localized adverse effects on  
2     public health and the environment; and

3           (3) shall ensure that significant emission reduc-  
4     tions are achieved in both the Eastern and Western  
5     Regions of the United States.

6     (b) DEADLINE.—The Administrator shall promul-  
7     gate—

8           (1) the regulations required under subsection  
9     (a) to carry out sections 2 and 3 not later than 2  
10    years after the date of the enactment of this Act;  
11    and

12          (2) the regulations required under subsection  
13    (a) to carry out section 4 not later than December  
14    15, 2004.

15   **SEC. 6. REGIONAL ECOSYSTEMS.**

16    (a) REPORT.—

17          (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31,  
18    2007, the Administrator shall submit to the Con-  
19    gress a report identifying objectives for scientifically  
20    credible environmental indicators, as determined by  
21    the Administrator, that are sufficient to protect sen-  
22    sitive ecosystems of the Adirondack Mountains, mid-  
23    Appalachian Mountains, Rocky Mountains, and  
24    Southern Blue Ridge Mountains, and water bodies

1 of the Great Lakes, Lake Champlain, Long Island  
2 Sound, and the Chesapeake Bay.

3 (2) ACID NEUTRALIZING CAPACITY.—The re-  
4 port shall—

5 (A) include acid neutralizing capacity as  
6 an indicator; and

7 (B) identify as an objective the objective of  
8 increasing the proportion of water bodies in  
9 sensitive receptor areas with an acid neutral-  
10 izing capacity greater than zero from the pro-  
11 portion identified in surveys begun in 1984.

12 (3) UPDATED REPORT.—Not later than Decem-  
13 ber 31, 2011, the Administrator shall submit to the  
14 Congress a report updating the report under para-  
15 graph (1) and assessing the status and trends of  
16 various environmental indicators for the regional  
17 ecosystems referred to in paragraph (1).

18 (4) REPORTS UNDER THE NATIONAL ACID PRE-  
19 CIPITATION ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.—The reports  
20 under this subsection shall be subject to the require-  
21 ments applicable to a report under section  
22 103(j)(3)(E) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C.  
23 7403(j)(3)(E)).

24 (b) REGULATIONS.—

1           (1) DETERMINATION.—Not later than Decem-  
2       ber 31, 2011, the Administrator shall determine  
3       whether emissions reductions called for in this Act  
4       are sufficient to ensure achievement of the objectives  
5       stated in subsection (a)(1).

6           (2) PROMULGATION.—If the Administrator  
7       finds under paragraph (1) that emission reductions  
8       are not sufficient to ensure achievement of the objec-  
9       tives identified in subsection (a)(1), the Adminis-  
10      trator shall promulgate, not later than 2 years after  
11      making the finding, such regulations, including  
12      modification of nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide al-  
13      lowance allocations or any such measure, as the Ad-  
14      ministrator determines are necessary to protect the  
15      sensitive ecosystems described in subsection (a)(1).

16 **SEC. 7. ADMINISTRATOR.**

17       For purposes of this Act, the term “Administrator”  
18      means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection  
19      Agency.

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